

Shwed does not disclose or suggest these steps. Consequently, claim 398 and dependent claims 399-418 are patentable over Shwed.

Independent claim 565 is directed to an information management system that includes analyzing means, being operable in conjunction with said application means, for monitoring said inbound data to identify in at least said inbound data signed data that has been digitally signed with a digital certificate, for extracting one or more details of said signed data and for determining whether or not verification is required for said digital certificate;

policy storage means, accessible by said analyzing means, for storing policy data containing rules which define whether or not verification is required for said digital certificate;

and wherein said analyzing means determines whether or not verification is required for said digital certificate in dependence on said rules of said policy data and in dependence on said one or more details of said signed data extracted by said analyzing means.

These elements are neither disclosed, nor suggested by Shwed. Claim 565 and dependent claims 566-585 are thus patentable over Shwed.

VI. Conclusion

Claims 1-46, 114-157, 178-261, 304-353, 377-418, 438-460, and 476-585 are pending in the present application. As the application is in condition for allowance, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with this submission, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,



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